



# Proposed Designation of a National Marine Sanctuary in Hudson Canyon

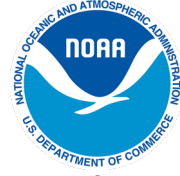
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Office of National Marine Sanctuaries/Eastern Region  
September 2024

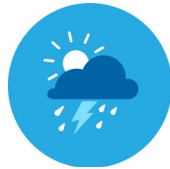


Credit: NOAA/OER

# OUR ORGANIZATION



**National  
Ocean Service**



**National  
Weather Service**



**National  
Environmental  
Satellite, Data, and  
Information Service**



**National  
Marine  
Fisheries Service**



**Office of  
Marine & Aviation  
Operations**



**Office of  
Oceanic &  
Atmospheric  
Research**



**NATIONAL MARINE  
SANCTUARIES**



**OUR CORE  
VALUES:**

Who we are and how we work



# SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCILS



Commercial Fishing



Recreational Fishing



Research



Education/outreach



Tourism



Comm/Citizen at Lg



Diving

Government



Conservation



Business



Recreation



Youth



Culture/Heritage



NATIONAL MARINE  
SANCTUARIES

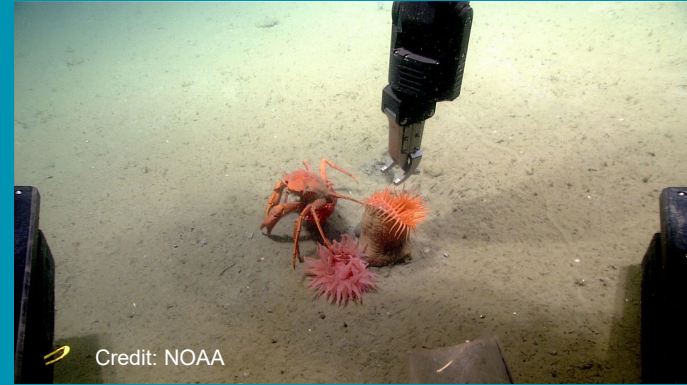
# ABOUT HUDSON CANYON



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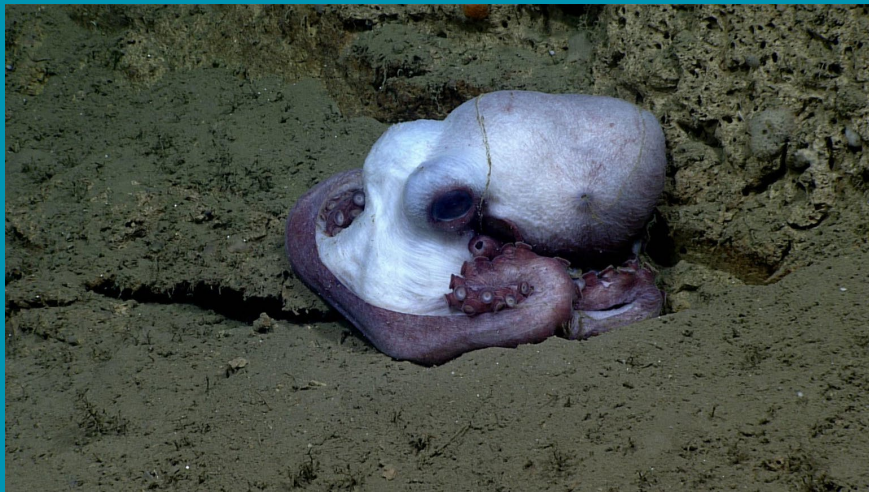


- ~ 100 miles southeast of New York City
- Largest submarine canyon along the Atlantic coast
- 7.5 miles wide, reaches depths of 2.5 miles
- Steep slopes, diverse sediments, flux of nutrients, areas of upwelling
- Ecological hotspot for a variety and abundance of marine life
- Indigenous culture and history, connections to the ocean





# Sanctuary Designation Process





# GOALS FOR THE PROPOSED DESIGNATION



- Support long-term conservation of the area's marine wildlife, habitats, and maritime cultural resources
- Work to identify and raise awareness of Indigenous connections to the area
- Highlight and promote sustainable uses of the area
- Expand ocean science and monitoring in, and education and awareness of the area
- Provide a platform for collaborative and diverse partnerships that support effective and inclusive long-term management of the area

# DESIGNATION PROCESS (3-5 YEARS)



Public Scoping - NOAA initiated designation in June 2022

- 60 day public comment period and public meetings
- ONMS received more than 17,000 comments

NOAA established pre-designation Sanctuary Advisory Council in May 2023

## Develop Sanctuary Proposal

- Data analysis and research, and review of input from scoping
- Draft environmental impact statement
- Draft management plan
- Proposed rule

Clearance and Interagency Review

- NOAA and Department of Commerce General Counsel review and clearance
- OMB Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs review and clearance

# DESIGNATION PROCESS (3-5 YEARS)



## Publication of Draft Designation Documents

- 60 to 90 days for public comments including public meetings
- ONMS reviews and analyzes all comments and information submitted during the comment period
- Determines appropriate changes if necessary

## Development and publication of Final Designation Documents

- Final environmental impact statement
- Final management plan
- Final rule

## Sanctuary Designation

- Before designation becomes effective, Congress has the opportunity to review the final designation documents during a 45-day consecutive session.

# NMSA SECTION 304(a)(5)



- Requires ONMS to “provide the appropriate Council or fishery management authority with the opportunity to prepare draft fishing regulations as the Council may deem necessary to implement the designation”
- Councils or NMFS can
  1. Recommend draft fishing regulations;
  2. Recommend that fishing regulations are not necessary; or
  3. Choose not to act on the matter
- We sent letters to the NE, MA, SA FMCs and Atlantic HMS Division on 7/7/22 to begin the process
- All Councils and Atlantic HMS recommended that fishing regulations were not necessary
- We will incorporate the analyses and recommendations into the DEIS

# What Documents Does ONMS produce?

## 1. Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

- Agency's preferred alternative (boundaries, regulations, management actions)
- Detailed analysis of biological, socioeconomic, and cultural resources of the area
- Cooperating Agencies - USCG and US Navy
- Consultation Process:
  - We hold trust responsibilities to Indigenous People and legal obligations to hold consultations with federally recognized tribes.

### Proposed Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary

Draft Environmental Impact Statement and  
Draft Management Plan

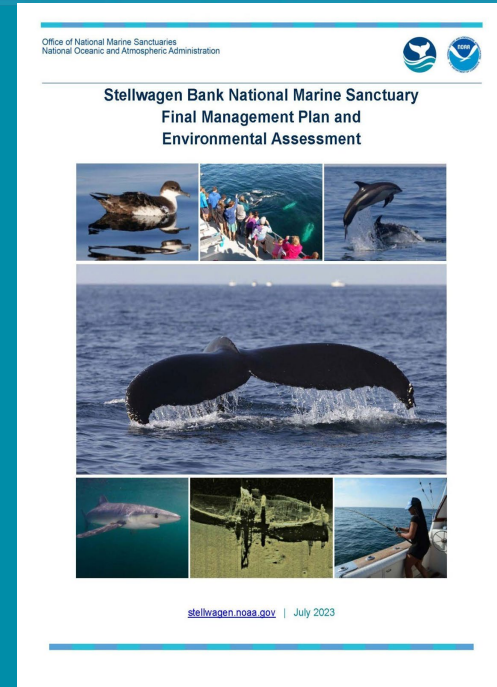


July 2021 | [sanctuaries.noaa.gov/lake-ontario/](https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/lake-ontario/)

# What Documents Does ONMS produce?

## 2. Management Plan

- Sanctuary-specific planning and management document
- Guides future management activities
- Outlines staffing and budget needs
- Action Plans - Sets priorities and performance measures
  - Resource Protection
  - Education and Outreach
  - Research and Monitoring
  - Tourism/Recreation/Econ. Development
  - Sanctuary Operations
- Each action plan includes a goal, objectives, strategies, activities



# What Documents Does ONMS produce?

## 3. Rulemaking - Proposed Rule

- Describes and defines the preferred boundaries of the proposed national marine sanctuary
- Describes “Terms of Designation”
- Identifies prohibited or otherwise regulated activities
- Each sanctuary has its own set of regulations within 15 CFR Part 922

# Hudson Canyon Sanctuary Advisory Council





# Hudson Canyon Advisory Council



## Commercial Fishing

Meghan Lapp

*Patrick Knapp*

Greg DiDomenico

*Andrew Minkiewicz*

## Recreational Fishing

Alan Lee

*Deane Lambros*

John Depersenaire

*Will Poston*

## Tourism/Recreation

Kiera Maloney

*Rob Nixon*

## Conservation

Noah Chesnin

*Judith Weis*

Carl LoBue

*Peter Chaibongsai*

## Science/Research

Mercer Brugler

*Walter Golet*

## Business/Economic Development

Cortney Worrall

*Rick Weber*

## Marine Industry

Stephen Lyman

*Rik van Hemmen*

John Dempsey

*Ronald Rapp*

## Education/Outreach

Lisa Breslof

*Chris Lido*

Chrissy Word

*Jim Kent*

## Citizen at Large

Paul Collier

*Brynn Heller*

Raymond Fusco

*Martin Scanlon*

# Hudson Canyon Advisory Council



## Government non-voting seats

1. NOAA Fisheries (Sarah McLaughlin)
2. New England Fishery Management Council (Michelle Bachman)
3. Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Chris Moore)
4. South-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Chip Collier)
5. U.S. Coast Guard (Tim Spence)
6. U.S. DOI/Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (Wright Frank)
7. U.S. Department of Navy (Matthew Senska)
8. State of New York (Mike Snyder)
9. State of New Jersey (Kevin Hassell)
10. State of Rhode Island (Julia Livermore)

# Advisory Council Role in Designation



- Provide advice and make recommendations to NOAA on the designation and management of sanctuaries
- Serve as a liaison between NOAA and local communities and constituents
- Identify potential partners and constituent groups for collaboration
- Help identify issues involving the proposed sanctuary
- Assist in developing informed constituency
- Provide technical expertise and information to support the development of the draft management plan

# Next Steps



- Summer 2025 Hudson Canyon Scientific Research Cruise
- Continue to develop draft designation documents
- Publish draft documents in 2025



<https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/hudson-canyon/>



## QUESTIONS?

For more information about the proposed designation of a national marine sanctuary in Hudson Canyon contact:

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[LeAnn.Hogan@noaa.gov](mailto:LeAnn.Hogan@noaa.gov)

